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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/05/2018
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SUBJECT: CANADA WILL DISCUSS BRAZIL'S PARTICIPATION IN PDG
IN STEERING COMMITTEE

Classified By: Acting PolMinCouns Kurt van der Walde,
reason 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Policy Planning officer Helen Fytche told poloff September 4 that Canada would be pleased to discuss Brazil's participation in the Partnership for Democratic Governance (PDG) at the October 17 Steering Group meeting. Canada felt this was the most appropriate venue to discuss the topic, said Fytche. Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Director General in the Office of Democratic Governance Adair Heuchan will lead Canada's delegation to the meeting. Fytche added that she had shared the demarche with DFAIT's Brazil desk, and stated that DFAIT was continuing to hold constructive discussions on the future of the PDG.

¶2. (C) A PDG delegation met recently with the Canadian High Commissioner in South Africa, said Fytche, and asked for Canadian assistance in urging South Africa to serve as a PDG observer. Canada supports South Africa's participation as an observer, but is being careful not to apply too much pressure on South Africa since Canada believes South Africa is reluctant to take on that role, said Fytche.

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